

Gaiety Theatre Dublin

Directors Eamonn Andrews, Lorcan Bourke, Fred O'Donovan
Dermod Cafferky, Joe Kearns, Tom Walsh.

NOVEMBER 28 to DECEMBER 10, 1977

Dublin Grand Opera Society

presents

International Opera Season

TONIGHT :

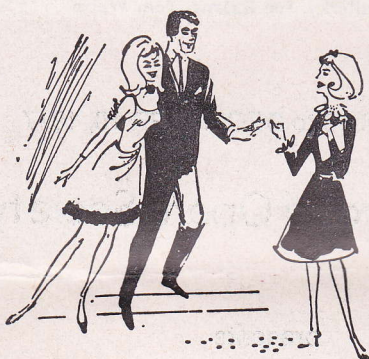
TANNHAUSER

(RICHARD WAGNER)





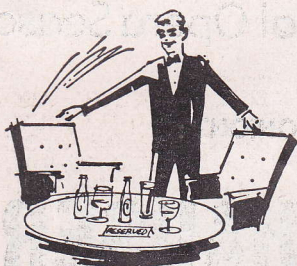
A GAIETY EVENING



FIRST ACT

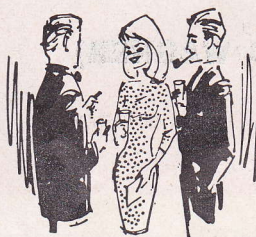
Meet in the Gaiety. Have a drink in comfort before the show.

Bars open 7.30 p.m. Order and pay for drinks for the interval.



INTERVAL

Your drinks are ready and waiting for you at your table. You're saved time and trouble.



ENCORE

Relax after the show. Have a drink. The bars are always open for half an hour after curtain fall.

FINALE

We trust you enjoyed your Gaiety evening come again!

Licensed Bars on all Floors.

GAIETY THEATRE

SOUTH KING STREET, DUBLIN 2

Resident Manager : JOE KEARNS

Telegrams : Gaiety Dublin

Telephone : 771717

Nightly 7.45 p.m.

Tannhäuser 7.30 p.m.

DUBLIN GRAND OPERA SOCIETY

with

RADIO TELEFIS EIREANN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

(By kind permission of the RTE Authority)

PRESENTS AN

INTERNATIONAL SEASON OF OPERA

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR

(Donizetti)

WERTHER

(Massenet)

TANNHÄUSER

(Wagner)

Guest Artistes

**SHARON BENNETT, PETER BINDER, FRANCO BONANOME,
CONNEL BYRNE, BRENDAN CAVANAGH, MARIA CLAUSOVA,
FRANK DUNNE, BERNADETTE GREEVY, PETER McBRIEN,
SEAN MITTEN, ION PISO, TERRY REID, IRENE SANDFORD,
SALVATORE SASSU, AURIO TOMICICH, WILLIAM YOUNG.
THE IRISH BALLET COMPANY**

Conductors

**NAPOLEONE ANNOVAZZI ALBERT ROSEN
COLMAN PEARCE**

Producers

DARIO MICHELI & KENNETH NEATE

Designers

DARIO MICHELI PATRICK MURRAY

Stage Director

PATRICK McCLELLAN

Chorus Masters

JOHN BRADY, VINCENZO GIANNINI

IRISH BALLET COMPANY

Choreographer : JOAN DENISE MORIARTY



**Commencing December 26th, 1977
Grand Christmas Pantomime**

MAUREEN POTTER
IN
RED RIDING HOOD

Starring
DANNY CUMMINS

WITH
Martin Dempsey, Sean O'Hagean, Vernon Hayden,
Paddy Dawson, Ann Davis, Cecil Nash,
The Mullen Sisters, Deborah Pearce

Special Guest Stars
World Famous Emerson & Jayne
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The Gaiety Dancers, The Gaiety Singers,
The Gaiety Children

Musical Director : Thelma Ramsey

Choreographer : Geni O'Kelly

Script by : Warren O'Connell

Technical Director : Lorcan Bourke

Directed by URSULA DOYLE

Produced by FRED O'DONOVAN

PRICES :

From December 26, 1977 to January 2, 1978

Dress Circle £2.50; Parterre £2; Front Circle £1.50;
Back Circle £1.

Matinees : Dress Circle £2; Parterre £1.50;
Front Circle £1; Back Circle 50p

From January 3, 1978

Dress Circle £2 ;Parterre £2 and £1.75;
Front Circle £1.50; Back Circle 75p.

Saturday Evenings : Dress Circle £2.50;
Parterre £2; Front Circle £1.50; Back Circle £1.

Matinee : Dress Circle £1.50; Parterre £1.25;
Front Circle £1; Back Circle 50p.



TANNHÄUSER

ACT ONE

SCENE 1. Tannhauser, a minstrel knight (minnesinger) of the court of the Landgrave (earl) of Thuringia, has fallen victim to the wiles of Venus and dwells with her in the caverns of Venus Hill. But now, despite the visions conjured up by Venus, he longs to return to the world. Although he will always sing the praises of Venus, her pleadings are vain. His salvation, he says, rests in the Virgin Mary, at whose name Venus vanishes.

SCENE 2. Tannhauser suddenly finds himself in a bright, sunlit valley before the Wartburg, the rock-castle of the Landgrave. A shepherd sings of Holda, goddess of Spring. A party of Elder Pilgrims, bound for Rome, passes. As their voices recede, Tannhauser continues their song. Now the Landgrave and his knights arrive, returning from the hunt. They welcome the long-absent Tannhauser, who evades their questions as to where he has been. At first he declines to stay, but when the knight Wolfram, with the Landgrave's permission, relates to Tannhauser that Elizabeth, the Landgrave's niece, continues faithful to him, Tannhauser consents to stay. The Landgrave announces a song contest at his castle.

ACT TWO

Elizabeth, in great joy, apostrophizes the Singer's Hall, where Tannhauser is once again to sing. He is brought to her by Wolfram. They declare their mutual devotion. Thus, the generous Wolfram, also devoted to Elizabeth, sees his hope dispelled but feels no rancour. The Landgrave approves Tannhauser's suit and appoints Elizabeth judge of the song contest whose theme is the nature of love. The guests and singers assemble. Wolfram, by lot, sings first, Tannhauser answers, Bitterolf intervenes with vigour. The argument loses its courtly nature. Tannhauser carried off by his memories horrifies the assembly by his reference to his sinful love with Venus. The ladies, except Elizabeth, leave. The knights draw their swords on the, at first, unrepentant Tannhauser, who is saved by Elizabeth. Her words put him to shame and he readily consents to the Landgrave's suggestion that he join the Younger Pilgrims and seek pardon from the Pope in Rome. Elizabeth offers her life for Tannhauser's atonement.

ACT THREE

Again the valley of the Wartburg. Autumn; Elizabeth is praying before an image of the Virgin. She and Wolfram, apart, await the Pilgrim's return. The Elder Pilgrims pass. In vain Elizabeth seeks Tannhauser amongst them. She again prays, asking Mary to accept the sacrifice of her life. Gently declining Wolfram's offer to accompany her, she returns sadly to the castle. Wolfram, feeling Elizabeth is about to die, asks the Evening Star to light her on her way to heaven. Tannhauser, ragged and pale, enters. At first aggressive, he then relents and relates to Wolfram his pilgrimage. For his sin in dwelling in Venus' Hill, his damnation is as certain as that the Pope's staff will never bear leaves again—this was the Holy Father's judgment. In despair, he calls on Venus, who appears at an opening in the rocks. Wolfram's efforts to detain Tannhauser are successful only when he pronounces the name of Elizabeth. Chanting is heard from the back. Wolfram knows that Elizabeth has died. Her sacrifice puts Venus to flight. The Landgrave, his court and the Elder Pilgrims enter, and Tannhauser, calling on Elizabeth to pray for him falls dead. The Younger Pilgrims return, bearing the Pope's staff which has miraculously put forth leaves. Thus is Tannhauser's sin expiated and forgiven.

Monday December 5th

Wednesday December 7th

TANNHA

(FOR FIRST TIME IN DUBLIN)

RICHARD

Premiere : PARIS OPERA

Time : EARLY THIRTEENTH CENTURY

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Count Herman of Thuringia
(The Landgrave)

Elizabeth (his niece)

Tannhäuser (Heinrich)

Wolfram von Eschenbach

Walter von der Vogelweide

Heinrich der Schreiber

Biterolf

Reinmar von Zweter
(minstrel knights)

Venus (goddess of love)

A Shepherd Boy

FOUR NOBLE PAGES, NOBLE

ELDER and YOUNGER

SIRENS, NAIADS, NYMPHS

THE IRISH BALLAD

Conductor : **NAPOLEONE ANNOVAZZI**

SYNOPSIS OF SCENERY

ACT ONE

Scene 1 The interior of the Venusberg.

Scene 2 A green valley.

ACT TWO

The Minstrels' Hall in the Wartburg.

ACT THREE

The Valley of the Wartburg.

Friday December 9th

Saturday December 10th

AUSER

IN THE PARIS VERSION)

WAGNER

IA, 13th MARCH, 1861

Place : NEAR EISENACH

PERSONAE

AURIO TOMICICH

MARIA CLAUSOVA

CONNEL BYRNE

PETER BINDER *very good*

FRANK DUNNE

BRENDAN CAVANAGH

PETER McBRIEN

SEAN MITTEN

IRENE SANDFORD *medium*

TERRY REID

BLES, KNIGHTS, LADIES

IGER PILGRIMS,

MPHS, BACCHANTES

LET COMPANY

Producer : KEN NEATE

RTE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

(By kind permission of the RTE Authority)

Sets and Ballet Costumes designed by PATRICK MURRAY,
and built in the Opera House, Cork.

Costumes by S. B. WATTS & CO. LTD., Manchester

FOR GAIETY THEATRE

Stage Manager : PADDY JONES

Assistant Stage Manager : GEORGE McFALL

Chief Electrician : SEAN BURKE

Lighting equipment supplied by Bourke-Strand Electric.

The Management reserves the right to refuse admission.

Latecomers will not be seated during music. The management reserve the right to make unavoidable alterations without notice.

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c/o GAIETY THEATRE

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CHORUS VACANCIES

A limited number of vacancies exist for male choristers in the Society. Applications should be made to the Honorary Secretary, Monica Condrón, 47 Raymond Street, Dublin 8.

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